



Dear Friends,

Last week Father Bill shared the following story with the staff. I was so moved, I asked him to share it with you in this week's column. It showed me the power of collective prayer and that each one of us **CAN** make a difference in life.

\*\*\*\*\*

A story familiar to most Christians, Jesus walking on the water, is found in the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 14. Recall that, in spite of the frightening storm conditions, Peter said: "Lord, if it is you, tell me to come to you on the water." The story focuses on Peter, stepping out bravely on the water then losing his faith and beginning to sink. Jesus says to him: "Oh you of little faith..." My friend, Harry, is an Orthodox Deacon, a fellow Chaplain in the Fairfax Fire and Rescue Department, and an EMT volunteer and recently shared a part of his homily on this Gospel story. He asked the congregation to think for just a moment about the other Eleven in the boat. They cowered in fear during this experience and did nothing to help, not even reaching out to save Peter as he began to sink. And then Deacon Harry shared this true story.

This happened at a Protestant Church here in the Burke-West Springfield District on a Sunday morning in the past month. A member of the choir that morning passed out, was unconscious and nonresponsive. By the time medics and ambulance arrived, the patient was close to death or perhaps even dead. The medics began CPR, which involves rhythmic chest pumps and counting.

As the medics related the story, during this time they could hear a murmur starting and spreading throughout the Church. Then, as they continued with the CPR, the medics both felt a hand on their shoulders. Looking over their shoulder they could see the entire congregation standing, praying and each one of them, from the front to back, had their hand on the shoulder of the person in front of them. They were, as Deacon Harry related in his homily, connected to the firefighter emt's. At that moment, he said, they were like the Eleven in the boat, only these were reaching out to help their brother in distress.

As the story closed, an AED (automated electric defibrillator) arrived. The patient was shocked, began breathing and was rushed to the hospital. He was discharged from the hospital this past week. This Church, and their faithful witness, has proved an inspiration to the firefighters and, I hope, to those who read this story. Thank you Deacon for sharing it with us.

Father Bill Korpi

**“SOMEONE ELSE”**

Labor Day has come and gone and a new school year has begun. This brings with it, numerous requests for volunteer help from the various parish and school organizations. With this in mind, this article, sent to me years ago, seems most appropriate:



“Our church was saddened to learn this week of the death of one of our most valued members, Someone Else. Someone’s passing creates a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Else has been with us for many years and for every one of those years, Someone did far more than a normal person’s share of the work. Whenever there was a job to do, a class to teach, or a meeting to attend, one name was on everyone’s list- ‘Let Someone Else do it.’ Whenever leadership was mentioned, this wonderful person was looked to for inspiration as well as results. ‘Someone Else can work with that group.’ It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among the most liberal givers in our church. Whenever there was a financial need, everyone just assumed Someone Else would make up the difference. Someone Else was a wonderful person, sometimes appearing superhuman. Were the truth known, everybody expected too much of Someone Else. Now Someone Else is gone! We wonder what we are going to do. Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to follow it? Who is going to do the things Someone Else did? When you are asked to help this year, remember – we can’t depend on Someone Else anymore.”

Anonymous

In your prayers please remember the sick and deceased of our parish family.



All parishioners are invited to join in a celebration for **Father Cedric Wilson's 35th Anniversary of his Ordination.** Nativity parish will celebrate Father Wilson's 35 years as a Catholic priest on Sunday, September 15 from 2pm to 3pm in the All Purpose Room at the Church of the Nativity. Let's honor Father Wilson by

stopping by and congratulating him on his special occasion. Cake and drinks provided. Contact the parish staff or Bill Canavan at 703-866-5217 for any questions.

## Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

### Monday, September 9

Dorthea Hansen	7:30am	Fr. Martin
----------------	--------	------------

### Tuesday, September 10

Sonia Mullin	7:30am	Fr. Martin
--------------	--------	------------

### Wednesday, September 11

Dale Eberhart	7:30am	Fr. Wilson
---------------	--------	------------

### Thursday, September 12

Daniel J. Sweeney	7:30am	Fr. Korpi
-------------------	--------	-----------

### Friday, September 13

Iris Sabatini	7:30am	Fr. Wilson
---------------	--------	------------

### Saturday, September 14

Graham O'Connor	9:00am	Fr. Wilson
Richard W. Weir	5:00pm	Fr. Martin
Hispanic Mass	7:00pm	Fr. Wilson

### Sunday, September 15

Betty McGough	7:30am	Fr. Gonsalves
Sister Ernestine	9:00am	Fr. Ready
Parishioners	11:00am	Fr. Martin
Narcisa Tiro	12:45pm	Fr. Wilson

## ENCOUNTER JESUS CHRIST THROUGH FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Come and see!** We welcome you to Nativity's **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** journey of faith, starting Monday, September 16, 2013, at 7 pm, in the Parish Hall. RCIA forms new disciples of Jesus Christ, as adults prepare to enter the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 19, 2014, with reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion. This faith journey deepen one's personal relationship with Jesus by encountering him through passionate teaching, personal witness, prayer and Eucharistic adoration, lively discussion and spiritual events. RCIA is open to those who have not been baptized, Christians baptized into another faith, adult baptized Catholics who have not been confirmed and others seeking to deepen their faith. For details, contact the Church at (703) 455-2400, e-mail Ron Riggins at [rriggins@cox.net](mailto:rriggins@cox.net) or pick up a brochure at the back of the Church.



**PRO-LIFE CORNER**

Today is celebrated as the birthday of Mary. "We can see every human birth as a call for new hope in the world. The love of two human beings has joined with God in his creative work. The loving parents have shown hope in a world filled with travail. The new child has the potential to be a channel of God's love and peace to the world. This is all true in a magnificent way in Mary. If Jesus is the perfect expression of God's love, Mary is the foreshadowing of that love. If Jesus has brought the fullness of salvation, Mary is its dawning."



as

[www.AmericanCatholic.org](http://www.AmericanCatholic.org) Choose Life Today. Choose Life Tomorrow. Pray Always. We Must Do No Less.

**A WOMAN'S CHOICE** is a pregnancy resource center that provides free pregnancy testing, referrals for medical treatment, housing, social service assistance and tangible support for pregnant women, including clothing and equipment. (703-538-4305).

**A WOMAN'S CHOICE** is a pregnancy resource center that provides free pregnancy testing, referrals for medical treatment, housing, social service assistance and tangible support for pregnant women, including clothing and equipment. (703-538-4305).

**24-Hour Crisis Pregnancy Hotline: 1-800-395-HELP**

**Project Rachel (healing after abortion):  
1-888-456-HOPE**

**Catholic Charities National: 1-800-CARE-002**

**Catholic Charities Local: 703-425-0100**

**A Woman's Choice: 703-538-4305**

**Gabriel Project: 1-866-444-3553**

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

Happy 55th Anniversary  
Edward and Eleanor Radican  
From The Radican Family

**Thought for the Week**

The difference between an optimist and a pessimist?  
An optimist laughs to forget,  
but a pessimist forgets to laugh.

Tom Bodett

**CCD NEWS**

**Students enrolled after August 26, begin religious education classes on September 22, 23, and 24.**

**All religious education teachers and assistants are to attend a very important Orientation Meeting on Sunday, September 8, at 6:00pm in**

**the Parish Hall.** Please make every effort to attend.

**Catechetical Sunday, September 15, 9:00am Mass** — All Religious Education Program Volunteers will be commissioned.

**Teachers and assistants for Confirmation** should attend a very important information meeting on **Sunday, September 22, at 7:30pm in Room 9.**

Student Registration forms should be turned in to the Religious Education Office along with payment and the student's baptismal certificate (unless it was previously submitted). Forms are available in the Religious Education Office, on the community board in the church vestibule, or at [www.nativityburke.org](http://www.nativityburke.org); click on Religious Education; then click on Student Registration.

**WHITE HOUSE ORNAMENTS**

The 2013 White House Ornament Sale by the Women of Nativity is almost here!

This year's ornament honors our 28th President Woodrow Wilson. You will love adding this "**Peace**" ornament to your tree! It is very pretty.



Some facts to remember:

\*Dates of sale will be September 21-22-28-29

\*Hours of sale will be Before and After 5PM Mass on Saturdays and 8-1 on Sundays as long as supplies last.

\*Cost is \$20.00 for each ornament, checks or cash **ONLY**.

\*Please make checks out to Church of Nativity

\*Inclement weather: you will find us in the All Purpose Room

The Women of Nativity appreciate your continued support of our only fundraiser. You make our parish extraordinary. **THANK YOU**

### Are you celebrating a Silver or Golden Wedding Anniversary this year?

Were you married in 1963 or 1988? Then join Bishop Loverde for the 2013 Marriage Jubilee Mass to be celebrated on Sunday, October 20th at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More. Contact the parish office to register no later than September 20th. For more info, visit [www.arlingtondiocese.org/familylife/MJM.aspx](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/familylife/MJM.aspx)



New to the parish? You have come to the right place. Fair Trade coffee and chocolate sponsored by Catholic Relief Services, are on sale in our charming Gift Shop. Both Fair Trade coffee and chocolate follow organic principles, are shade-grown supporting the environment and provide living wages for farmers in developing countries. Fair Trade promotes long term relationships with its farmers so they know they have a future and Catholic Relief Services encourages US Catholics to support its program. Not to mention how delicious the coffee and chocolate taste.



### LEARN ITALIAN! IT'S FAST AND EASY!

Join our Class in September. For information about cost and dates please contact Instructor Elisabetta Lagatre.

[Bsmile24@aol.com](mailto:Bsmile24@aol.com) or 703-887-1995.



The Italian Heritage Society of St. Mary of Sorrows  
Lucio D'Andrea [luciodandrea@verizon.net](mailto:luciodandrea@verizon.net)

### Men's Prayer Group

The Church of the Nativity invites all interested men to join the Men's Prayer and Reflection Group, which meets every Saturday morning from 8:00 to 9:00 in the Green Room (a.k.a. the "crying room"). The meetings involve praying the morning office, reading the Sunday readings, and discussing their impact on our daily lives. The group is led by Greg LaNave, Nativity parishioner and professor of theology at the Dominican House of Studies. Please contact the parish office if you are interested in learning more about this group.



### NATIVITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence*



### Currently accepting registrations for 2013 — 2014 school year.

Welcome back students, parents and teachers.

We warmly welcome our new students to the Nativity family. Let's shine brightly together in the

**2013-2014 school year!**

### BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

**Wednesday, September 4th:**

**6th, 7th and 8th Grades**

**7:00pm**

**Thursday, September 5th:**

**Preschool – 5<sup>TH</sup> Grade**

**6:30pm -Pre-School & Pre-K**

**7:00pm- Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup>**

### ARTICLES/FLYERS FOR THE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

All articles for the school newsletter, or flyers for the Wednesday packet must be approved by Ms. Kelly and received to be included in the Wednesday packet. Anything received after will be held until the following week packet.

### PARENTS' MEETING/BAND SIGN UP

There will be a Band Sign-up meeting on Wednesday, September 11th at 7:00 pm for 4th grade and above in the Parish Hall. If you and your child are interested, please feel free to attend. Mr. Morton, our Band Director will be available to answer questions.

### BOX TOP\$ FOR EDUCATION

Helping Parents Leaders Make School Great! Once again, we will be collecting Box Top\$. If you have any questions, how to help the school please call to Nativity School @ 703-455-2300. **Please trim along edges and put your child's name on the back for the weekly drawing. Thank you in advance.!**



**Bible Study will meet on Tuesday, September 10 at 9:30 a.m. in the All Purpose Room. Our study this year is "The Gospel Across Cultures from Jerusalem to Antioch."**

**For further information, contact Joan Consoli, [703-690-5922](tel:703-690-5922) or Janet Hamrick [703-866-9465](tel:703-866-9465)**



### **San Gennaro Festival - Blessing of the Vines at Three Fox Vineyard**

The annual blessing of the vines at Three Fox Vineyard will take place this year on Saturday, Sep 14. Bring the family and have a great time. Our council supports this event, hosted by Vineyard owners Brother Knight John Todhunter and his wife Holli. We will be cooking and serving the food. Call PGK Tom Savage at 703-455-2054 or- [tomkc7992@gmail.com](mailto:tomkc7992@gmail.com) for more information or to offer your help.

Next business meeting is 19 Sept.

### **THE WEEK AHEAD IN OUR PARISH**

**Sunday, September 8 Religious Ed Collection**

**Monday, September 9**

8:00pm.....AA Meeting (APR)

**Tuesday, September 10**

9:30am.....Bible Study (APR)

**Wednesday September 11**

10:00am.....Mom & Me (APR)

7:00pm.....Hispanic Prayer Group (SC)

7:30pm.....Legion of Mary (GR)

7:30pm.....Women of Nativity Meeting (APR)

**Thursday, September 12**

9:30am.....Craft Group (APR)

7:00pm.....ESL (Room 5)

7:15pm.....Prayer Group (APR)

**Saturday, September 14**

8:00am.....Men's Prayer & Reflection Group (GR)

10:00am.....ESL (Room 5, 6, 7)

10:00am.....Dog Obedience Class (PL)

### **PRAYER SHAWL MEETING**

The next daytime meeting will take place in the APR on Monday, September 16th at 9:30am. The evening meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 18th at 7:00pm in the APR. Come and bring your project to work on or learn how to make a prayer shawl for someone who is seriously ill. For more information call Toni Rausch, 703-455-3260; Flo Grike, 703-250-7799 or Joanne Dezzutti, 703-455-5702.



## **OPERATION STARFISH® NEWS**

[www.operation-starfish.org](http://www.operation-starfish.org)



L to R... Jim McDaniel, Fr. Dick Martin,  
Archbishop Bernardito Auza

Fr. Dick Martin, Pastor of Church of the Nativity in Burke, Virginia, addressed a gathering of 340 pastors, clergy, lay leaders and parishioners from the Diocese of Rockford, Illinois at a gala dinner in Rockford on August 24th. Most Rev. David J. Malloy, Bishop of Rockford, and Archbishop Bernardito Cleopas Auza, Apostolic Delegate to Haiti, were honored guests who heard Fr. Martin tell the story of Operation Starfish, Nativity's ministry to Haiti.

This is the 15th anniversary of Nativity's work in Haiti with Food For The Poor, the largest international charity in the U.S. Several Rockford parishes also have Operation Starfish programs, modeled on Nativity's ministry. The Rockford churches have built 2 housing villages co-located with Nativity Villages in Haiti. Over the past 15 years, Nativity has built more than 1,000 houses in 8 "Nativity Village" developments in the poorest areas of Haiti.

Fr. Martin was recognized for having founded Operation Starfish, which Food For The Poor has brought to churches, schools and organizations across the U.S.

# YOUTH MINISTRY - THIS WEEK

## Youth Mass (Grades 7-12)

**Sunday, Sept 8**

7:30pm—9:30pm

Light “messy” snack will be provided afterwards followed by fellowship and a brief conversation about upcoming events and programming this year. Bring a blanket to sit on. And, bring a friend to sit next to.



## Youth & Parent Fall Meeting

**Sunday, Sept 22**

5:15pm - Jr. High

7:30pm - High School

Fill out New registration forms for the year  
Preview our big events and trips  
Youth and Parents give input for this year's youth activities  
Volunteer to make it happen  
Questions? Contact Ingrid

## Sunday Youth Nights Resume Sept 16

### High School (9-12)

7:30pm - 8:45pm

Parish Hall

### Jr. High (grades 6-8)

5:15pm - 6:15pm

All Purpose Room



### Up-Coming Events: Lock-Ins

High School Lock-In, October 4-5

Jr. High Lock-In, November 8-9

Look for permission forms next week on-line

**Contact us...** To get on our distribution list. We'd love to see you. There's plenty of room!

Ingrid Sánchez-Seymour

703-455-2400 ext 115

[ingridss@nativityburke.org](mailto:ingridss@nativityburke.org)



## RCIC Begins Monday, Sept 16, 7:00pm

If you are in grades 3-12 and the Holy Spirit is calling you into a journey of faith of Jesus through the Church, contact us - We'll walk with you!



### Glory Days receipts support

CYM. For your convenience, place *receipts* in the *collection basket* or in the CYM envelope located next to the gift shop.

## PVI RunFest 5K Race Sunday

**September 15, 2013 at 8:00 am.**

The race will be held at Paul VI High School, 10675 Fairfax Boulevard, Fairfax, VA. Register on-line at [www.tinyurl.com/pvirunfest2013](http://www.tinyurl.com/pvirunfest2013) or at the race. T-shirts will be given out to the first 500 registrants, plus many other prizes, giveaways, and food on race day.

The 12<sup>th</sup> running of the PVI RunFest 5K will benefit PVI's nationally recognized Options Program. The Options Program provides a quality modified inclusive education in a Catholic environment for high school age students with intellectual disabilities. Additionally, a portion of the PVI RunFest proceeds will benefit the PVI Cross Country Teams – your hosts for the event.

## DOMINGO XXIII (T.O.) C

### EL “CHIP” QUE DIOS NOS PUSO

Acostumbrados a nacer bajo el paraguas de una religión determinada (en este caso la católica) podemos olvidar que la fe exige riesgos, condiciones, actitudes, compromisos concretos e incluso alguna que otra renuncia personal.

*“Si quieres llegar a la cumbre despójate del peso de tus espaldas” (X.Medium)*

Nos mira el Señor y nos dice que, aquel que no deje detrás de sí muchas cosas, no puede ser discípulo suyo. Que tenemos que utilizar y desplegar todos los medios a nuestro alcance para construir su Reino.

En el día de nuestro Bautismo, Dios, sin percatarnos de ello, nos puso un “chip” con un potencial que se irá desarrollando, desvelando a lo largo de nuestra vida: LA FE

Lo cierto es que, con el paso del tiempo, en la medida que vamos configurando nuestro ser y nuestra historia al espíritu del Evangelio es cuando podemos discernir si estamos en “onda” con el satélite de Jesús de Nazaret o si, por el contrario, hace tiempo que nuestra vida cristiana quedó a la deriva y, por lo tanto, ese “chip” quedó fuera de servicio por no haber sido actualizado y cuidado.

Siempre que uno adquiere un componente electrónico, junto con él, nos viene el manual de instrucciones en diversos idiomas para ponerlo en funcionamiento.

El cristianismo también tiene una serie de puntos que son imprescindibles para que no quede inservible e inaudible en nuestro mundo y ante los cuales (entre otras muchas) pueden darse las siguientes reacciones:

**-A unos no les hace falta echarles ni un vistazo tan siquiera. Son tan listos que se lo saben todo. Se permiten hasta el lujo de decir qué es lo más o menos importantes para vivir el evangelio.**

**-Otros están tan pendientes de su normativa y de sus leyes (aunque hay que reconocer que cada día son los menos) que no dejan respiro para que cumpla su cometido: la libertad de los hijos de Dios**

**-Otros más, por otra parte, intentan con sudor y sufrimiento, contrariedades y creatividad que no se pierda el origen, el principio y el fundamento del mismo: actuar y vivir según la mente de Jesús.**

**-Y, finalmente, hay otros que adquirieron el elemento de la fe pero pronto lo guardaron sin más preocupación como quien guarda un libro, sin leerlo, en la estantería de su casa. Son los que creen que lo importante es estar bautizado pero viviendo de espaldas al compromiso adquirido. Aún recuerdo en un programa televisivo la declaración de un contertulio: “soy socio de la iglesia pero nunca voy a ella”. Como si uno fuera miembro de un equipo deportivo y jamás viese ni asistiese a un solo partido de fútbol.**

Luces, sombras, alegrías y cruces se presentan delante de nosotros a la hora de vivir con cierta radicalidad el mensaje de Jesús. Encandila y gusta el personaje de Jesús de Nazaret pero, no sé hasta qué punto, lo que nos dice es acogido y llevado hasta sus últimas consecuencias.

Esa, precisamente, es nuestra cruz: la distancia que nos separa entre lo que queremos y entre lo que vivimos, entre el Evangelio y el otro “evangelio rebajado” en nuestra propia vida: creer no es camino fácil.

Esa es, entre otras muchas, la cruz que llevamos sobre nuestros hombros: saber que siempre es más cómodo el aplauso que la crítica, el halago que el profetismo, el casamiento con el ambiente que la denuncia de todo lo que le corrompe: creer implica ir contracorriente y pedir a Dios fuerza para seguir adelante. *“Casi todos vienen a mí para que les alivie la Cruz; son muy pocos los que se me acercan para que les enseñe a llevarla”.* San Pío de Pietrecina

Ante estas dos implicaciones que nos sugiere Jesús (dejar todo atrás y cargar con la cruz) sólo hemos de ver una clara intencionalidad por su parte: estar abiertos a todos despegándonos de lo “mío” o de “lo nuestro”. Y, el “padre o la madre” de los que habla va más allá del mero ámbito familiar: es todo aquello que estorba para dar razón de nuestra fe y quedarnos replegados comodamente en nosotros mismos.

## Aprende Tu Fe



### ¿Cómo saber si estoy en gracia?

Autor: P. Miguel Ángel Fuentes, V.E.

¿Podemos tener conciencia de la gracia? ¿Podemos saber si estamos o no en gracia de Dios?

Como explica Santo Tomás, el conocimiento del estado de gracia (es decir, de que nosotros poseemos la gracia santificante) puede darse de dos maneras diversas:

- **Por revelación**, lo cual, evidentemente, es un privilegio particular dado a pocos.

- **Por conjetura**, es decir, a través de algunos signos. Y tal, es el modo ordinario para alcanzar el conocimiento de la gracia.

Dice el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica: *“La gracia, siendo de orden sobrenatural, escapa a nuestra experiencia y sólo puede ser conocida por la fe. Por tanto, no podemos fundarnos en nuestros sentimientos o nuestras obras para deducir de ellos que estamos justificados y salvados. Sin embargo, según las palabras del Señor: ‘Por sus frutos los conoceréis’ (Mt 7,20), la consideración de los beneficios de Dios en nuestra vida y en la vida de los santos nos ofrece una garantía de que la gracia está actuando en nosotros y nos incita a una fe cada vez mayor y a una actitud de pobreza llena de confianza”*. (n. 2005)

En cuanto a los signos que nos permiten conjeturar el estado del alma, tres principales nos orientan sobre el estado de gracia:

a) **El testimonio de la buena conciencia**, que entraña: el no tener conciencia de pecado mortal; el dolor sincero de los pecados cometidos; el propósito de enmienda y el horror al pecado; el cumplimiento de los preceptos divinos; la victoria en las tentaciones; el amor a las virtudes y el esfuerzo por el evitar el pecado venial.

b) **El deleite en las cosas divinas**, es decir: el gusto por los libros santos y por la Palabra de Dios; la devoción a la Eucaristía y a la Virgen; la frecuencia de los sacramentos y la oración mental.

c) **El desprecio de las cosas mundanas**, que supone: no tener apego a las cosas de la tierra, el no sentir gusto en las vanidades del mundo; el huir de las ocasiones del pecado.

Sin embargo, estos signos no nos dan más que una conjetura, por eso, la Escritura nos exhorta a la vigilancia, a la perseverancia, a la santificación:

-Ecc1 5,5: Aún del pecado expiado no vivas sin temor, y no añadas pecados a pecados.

-Prov 20,9: ¿Quién puede decir: "He limpiado mi corazón, estoy limpio de pecado"?

-Sal 18.13: ¿Quién podrá conocer sus pecados? Absuélveme de los que se me oculta.

-1 Cor 4,4: Estoy cierto de que de nada me arguye la conciencia, más no por eso me creo justificado; quien me juzga es el Señor



## Huellas en la playa

*Autor: P. Fernando Pascual*



Un día tibio, de paseo por la playa. Las olas besan la orilla, mientras la arena acoge mil suspiros.

El lugar, solitario, sereno. Empiezo a caminar. Junto al mar, unas huellas. Alguien ha pasado. Tiene los pies pequeños. Algo puedo saber del caminante, por sus huellas, por lo que ha dejado con su cuerpo entre la arena.

Luego, nada. No hay señales. Sólo brilla el mar, juega a los espejos. Un rumor inquieto llena el ambiente, mientras el sol calienta aguas, tierra y pensamientos.

¿Nada? ¿No hay nadie aquí? ¿Estamos solos? ¿Es la vida un surco en la playa, un dejar huellas fugaces, borradas por el viento y por las olas?

Busco otras huellas. No de hombres, no de niños, no de pájaros. Busco huellas que me digan si alguien hizo el mundo y las estrellas. Huellas que me expliquen el motivo de la vida, de la muerte, de la esperanza y de las lágrimas de los inocentes.

Si Dios existe, si el mundo es bueno, si la vida es regalo, si el amor es eterno, tendré que descubrir señales. En las olas o en una gaviota, en el delfín o en el cangrejo, en la libélula o en la concha.

Un puñado de arena resbala entre mis dedos. El viento acaricia la cara, gime por momentos. Luego, nada. Sólo olas que vienen y van, inquietas. Parecen buscar conquistas imposibles, plasmar esculturas entre rocas y romper castillos de ensueño.

Busco huellas. Dios no puede esconderse mucho tiempo. Tengo que descubrirlo, sentir sus sueños, respirar su aire, tocar su imaginación infinita, su capacidad incansable de hacer lo nuevo.

Dios tiene que aparecer. Quizá sostiene esas huellas, de un niño y de su madre, que han pasado. Quizá ama junto a esos novios que se comprometen, para siempre, a darse y a acoger, un día como esposos, cada vida que Dios quiera regalarles. Quizá mira, con esos ojos de un anciano, cómo el sol se zambulle, entre las olas, mientras el viento cesa y las golondrinas vuelven a un tejado.

Dios ha dejado tantas huellas... Quizá me falta vista para verlas. O un corazón sencillito, como el de un niño, que mira mil reflejos en las olas y exclama: ¡qué bello!

## Actividades de la Comunidad Hispana

**Iglesia de la Natividad**

**6400 Nativity Lane-Burke, VA 22015**

**Teléfono 703-455-2400**

**Rev. Cedric Wilson**

### **SANTA MISA EN ESPAÑOL:**

**Todos los sábados a las 7:00pm**

**CONFESIONES: Los sábados antes de la Santa Misa de 6:15pm a 6:55pm**

**Catequesis Para niños y Jóvenes:** Sábados de 5:00pm a 6:45pm Informes: 703-455-2400, ext 116  
Sr. Ponciano 202-262-6659

**Catequesis Para niños y Jóvenes:** Inscripciones para el año escolar septiembre 2010 a mayo 2011 están abiertas.

**Catequesis para adultos:** Bautismo, Comunión, y Confirmación, Sábados de 5:15pm a 6:15pm  
Contacto: Tito Pinto 703-912-9220

**Charla para el Bautismo:** Primer Miércoles del mes 7:30pm, aula 8

**Sacramento del Bautismo:** Tercer Sábado del mes. 1:30pm Contacto: Deacon Pardo 703-455-2400

**Grupo de Oración:** Miércoles 7:00pm a 9:00pm. Están todos invitados. Marco Camacho 703-968-5585

**Grupo de Liderazgo Juvenil reuniones:** Domingo 11:00am-1:00pm aula 5 Contacto: Nelson Pineda 571-234-3664

**Reunión del Grupo de los Jóvenes Sábados:** a partir de las 5:00pm aula 4. contacto: Juan Carlos Chávez 703-473-6941

**Solidaridad Cristiana:** Mayor información llamar Mirian Ponciano 703-913-5494.

**Para mas información:** Lucy Benavides - 703-425-2329

Julio Varillas - 703-887-9925

**Anuncios para el boletín: debe ser presentado por escrito el viernes a las 9 de la mañana (10 días antes de su publicación). Pueden enviar entradas por correo electrónico a [nativitybulletin@aol.com](mailto:nativitybulletin@aol.com)**

**Charlas de Convalidación** para recibir el Sacramento del Matrimonio: cada otro domingo del mes 9:00am – 10:45am aula 4. Contacto: Antonio y Maritza Di Paolo 703-493-8719

**Reunión de Matrimonios:** domingo 9:00am – 11:00am aula 5. Contacto: Antonio y Maritza Di Paolo - 703-493-8719